

❖Museum ArtiFACTS❖

Volume 2 Issue 3 National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey

Winter 2000

INTELLIGENT WHALE on Website pbs.org/wgbh/nova/lostsub/hist1861...

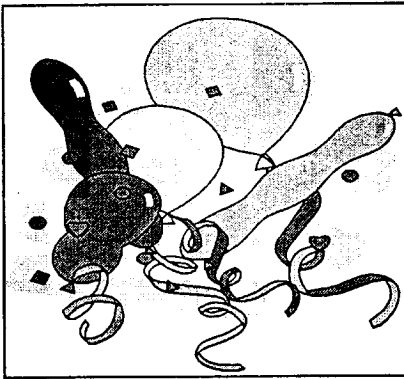
A phone call from the State of Minnesota on Monday 12 November alerted the museum to a website illustrating the *Intelligent Whale*, but the information included with it was incorrect!

On Tuesday 13 November the Public Broadcasting System aired an episode of NOVA, "Hitler's Lost Sub." A history of submarines, under the subtitle "400 Years of Submarines," was part of the website for the program. A click onto "1860-1890" found a picture and a narrative of the *IW*. Unfortunately, the information under the photograph was incorrect, as well as some of the narrative that accompanied the photo.

The information told the viewer that the *IW* was located at the Washington Navy Yard and not here in New Jersey at the museum in Sea Girt. The narrative stated that Pet Halsted, the *IW* owner, was there when the Navy held trials for the *IW* in 1872 and that he was murdered afterward most likely by "...disgruntled creditors."

Curator, CW4 Judith McCabe, made contact with PBS in Virginia via e-mail on Monday and by phone on Tuesday morning. Having left a message with a public relations representative, there was still no response after a couple of hours. Again, a call was made and this time with a live contact. Chief McCabe was directed to the producer of the program, Rick Groleau, in Boston at WGBH. Before she could call him, he called her!

Chief McCabe informed him of where the *IW* could be seen. "Are you sure?" Rick asked. "Yes" she said, "I even have a hole in the roof to prove it too!" Chief McCabe went on to explain the memo-



***Volunteers and staff wish
everyone a festive holiday
season and a healthy 2001.
Thanks for your support!!!***

able arrival of the *IW* at the museum. She went on to explain that Halsted was indeed murdered, but not by "disgruntled creditors" but by George Botts, the ex-lover of his mistress in rooms over a saloon on South Street in Newark. Furthermore, he was murdered in 1871 and could not have been at the Navy trials in 1872 except in spirit only. Chief McCabe explained that it was Pet Halsted's nephew, Abe Halsted, who took the *IW* to the Navy trials. Mr. Groleau was grateful for the correct information and changed it in time for the airing of the program that night.

The website now reads that the *IW* is at Sea Girt and that "Halsted was not present, having been murdered the year before by his mistress' ex-lover."

The museum wishes to thank Tim Smalley, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Boating Safety Education Coordinator, for his sharp eye and accurate knowledge of the *Intelligent Whale*.

First Lecture Series Held at Sea Girt : Weapons of Infantry

The museum held it's first lecture series during the month of October. The topic was "Firearms of the Infantry Soldier: 1850-1950" and was presented by Carl Johnson of Manasquan. Mr. Johnson has been in the weapons field for over 50 years and considered an expert in the history and design of weapons systems. Classes were held three Tuesday nights, October 10th, 17th and 24th. Students were collectors, police personnel and history buffs. The museum will host this same lecture series again in the spring or fall of 2001 for those who could not attend the one in October.

Mr. Johnson has become the museum's volunteer/consultant on firearms and he is in the process of redesigning the weapons exhibit with a more comprehensive story line. Two new display cases are being built and more weapons are being added to the collection. New weapons are being donated to the museum from county prosecutor offices and from private individuals. The addition of these weapons will fill out the current collection and provide more flexibility for future exhibits.

Mr. Johnson has been welcome to the museum volunteer staff and his effort in preparing for the lecture series was outstanding. He spent many hours in preparation for each two hour class. CSM(Ret) Bob Theall and MAJ. (Ret) Ray Rauanheimo assisted Carl by preparing all of the overhead slides for the class. The end result was that each student received a 30 page handout for each lecture. The efforts of all those involved made for a successful lecture series!

Message from the President: Civil War Flags Displayed at Archives

Dou know that Major General Paul J. Glazar, The Adjutant General, strongly supports and encourages our museum system to ensure that the story of our New Jersey National Guard and Militia is made available in detail for everyone to learn. Well, at the same time, he also has been strongly supporting the New Jersey Civil War Heritage Association (NJCWhA), a non-profit organization whose purpose is to preserve, protect and enhance New Jersey's Civil War heritage, while concurrently fostering support, understanding and appreciation of that heritage. Very similar to our own purpose for the New Jersey military history!

The NJCWhA recently enjoyed the completion of its priority goal as the long awaited New Jersey Civil War flag collection exhibit was opened to the public on 26 October 2000. The display is housed at 225 West State Street, Trenton. The flags, 53 of the total 140 Civil War period banners owned by the state, have been made available for view. They will be rotated every 6 months in each of 5 custom made display cases. Five flags will be visible at any time. These magnificent displays are accompanied by campaign maps, panels containing related descriptions and brochures.

The collection is awesome and exciting to see! It is complimentary to our museums displays of New Jersey's military history. It is a furtherance of General Glazar's vision. Although the display cases were funded by Governor Christine Todd Whitman, volunteers of the NJCWhA and other organizations banded together to make this project happen. Much how we work!

The Civil War gallery is open during the week. If you come to Trenton to visit the flags, you might as well stop in and see COL Don Kale at the Lawrenceville Armory on Eggert Crossing Road (off Route 206). Call him at 609.530.6802. Our museum collection there is awesome too! You can visit the NJCWhA website at

www.njcivilwar.org.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and museum staff, may everyone have an enjoyable holiday season and a healthy, bountiful year 2001.

COL (Ret) William J. Apgar, Jr.
President

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Veteran Volunteer Receives Diploma

In a ceremony at the Trenton War Memorial on 3 November 2000, Governor Christine Todd Whitman awarded high school diplomas to 200 veterans under "Operation Recognition." The program honors World War II veterans who dropped out of high school to join the military between 16 September 1940 and

31 December 1946. New Jersey is one of 11 states to adopt "Operation Recognition."

One of the veterans to receive his diploma was MSG (Ret) Al Fink. Al is a volunteer at the Lawrenceville Annex where he religiously arrives two days a week to be a chipper in Morton's Cannon Shop. Curator, COL (R) Don Kale, said he is the one with the best attendance. Al also is in attendance every Wednesday night for the 112th Association. Fifty-eight years after he left Trenton High School, when his National Guard unit was activated, Al said that receiving his diploma was marvelous.

During World War II Al was with the 696th Battalion of the 112th Field Artillery and served in five major campaigns: Normandy, Northern France, Central Europe, Rhineland and Ardennes-Alsace. After World War II Al stayed in the New Jersey Army National Guard, still with the 112th Field Artillery. He retired with the rank of Master Sergeant. The Board of Trustees, volunteers and staff of the museum congratulate Al on receiving his long awaited diploma!!!

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EDITOR: CW4 Judith E. McCabe
ASST. EDITOR: LTC(R) James Broderick

An ARTifact.....

Notes from journal of sailor aboard USS Haines-WWII

14 August 1944....passed through the Straits of Bonifacio between Corsica and Sardinia, then along the coast of Corsica to our striking point between Cannes and Nice. Soldiers will land then work their way to Marseille.

15 August....invaded southern coast of France...Invasion about 5'o'clock Monday Morning 15 August 1944...about 780 ships...plus small craft...shore batteries were relieved about 10:00 o'clock...our ship didn't fire a shell...saw an enemy plane shot down...and depth charges fired at a sub...sub was in lot of gun fire...saw the ships fire at the beach...our group was Delta and our position Charlie...glad it's over...

16 August...Patrolled coast of France all night.

17 August...Patrolled coast...had quite a few GQ...went into beach to pick up convoy. Saw southern coast of France just west of where our division landed. Picked up 4 LSTs...waited until personnel were transferred from LSTs to DD then started on our trip to Calvi, Corsica. Had a few more GQs...enemy plane flew right across our bow...didn't fire...area that we left was under attack.

Journal presently on display at the Paramus Veteran's Home, Paramus, New Jersey.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey, Inc. was held on Sunday 29 October in Sea Girt.

The meeting accepted the reports of all the committees regarding yearly activities and elected new officers to the Board of Trustees. The Long Range Plan was presented to the Board and it was decided that a meeting dedicated to the contents of the ten year plan be scheduled. The Long Range Planning Committee was chaired by BG (R) Robert Dutko and was facilitated by COL Michael Smith.

The new officers of the Board of Trustees are: CSM (R) Robert Theall, CSM (R) Richard LaRocca and CSM (R) Thomas Walter. The Board also appointed COL (R) Stephen G. Abel, Administrator, Cemeteries, Memorials, Monuments and Museums, as an ex-officio member.

National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey, Inc. Board of Trustees

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SGM(R) Joseph Lanzalotto

Ex-Officio

MG Paul J. Glazar, The Adjutant General
COL(R) Stephen G. Abel

Other Appointments

LTC Mark R. Tarantino, Attorney
CPT Robert Hughes, Treasurer

World War II Artist Donation Works of William A. Foley, Jr.

The museum has received a donation of artwork from WW II artist William A. Foley, Jr. who lives in Dallas, Texas. Forty-seven laser copies of black and white drawings and one oil painting have been donated. All pieces have Mr. Foley's original signature.

Mr. Foley visited the museum last year in search of his uniform that he believed to have been donated, without his knowledge, by a family member. The inventory had no uniform but did have an oil painting by a William Foley. Mr. Foley had forgotten about the

*I jumped the gaps of inexperience
...and found my way to record
something of what I saw.*

painting and was surprised and pleased to find it. It had been donated by the family member. The museum staff was thrilled to meet the artist of such a beautiful and haunting piece of work. Realizing how much the staff appreciated the painting Mr. Foley graciously donated it to the museum in his name.

After visiting the museum and spending time talking with the staff, Mr. Foley decided to donate the 47 drawings. The drawings were sketched during the war and Mr. Foley carried them through the war rolled in his blanket inside an American 81mm mortar tube. He sketched on whatever he could find. The oil painting, titled *Exorcism*, was a black and white sketch, mounted on cardboard and painted over in oil. All the works have been copyrighted because they are going to be published in a book he is writing, *Sketches Under Fire*.

Foley was 18, had no art training and was a member of G Company, 302nd Infantry Regiment of the 94th Division. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and he has three battle stars. He states that he "... was significantly moved by the action we found ourselves involved in - I jumped the gaps of inexperience (didn't we all as soldiers?) and found my way to record something of what I saw."

What he saw and recorded were all the elements of war; the death, the destruction and even the humor.

Korean War Commemorative Community Update: Memorial Opens in Atlantic City

The New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs also has become a member of the 50th Anniversary of Korean War Commemorative Community. One of their first events was the dedication of the New Jersey Korean War Memorial in Atlantic City on 13 November. The memorial is built on land donated by Atlantic City and is located at Park Place and Boardwalk. Thomas Jay Warren and Tom Currillo sculpted a memorial that is a serious vision of the bitter struggles of soldiers in Korea 50 years ago.

The museum's commitment to the Commemorative Community continued in November with Veteran's Day activities and exhibits. A Korean War exhibit is on display at Manasquan Public Library and materials from the Commemorative Community helped the Manasquan Elks host their annual Veteran's Day Dinner Dance on 11 November.

The mobile museum, equipped with a Korean War exhibit, traveled to Pennington and Englewood for Veteran's Day ceremonies and to Somerset for the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medal ceremony. It will travel to Cherry Hill on 14 December for the awarding of the New Jersey Distinguished Service Medals.

The museum thanks volunteer, Joe Mathias, for running the Mobile Museum at Englewood on Veteran's Day. At Pennington, LTC(P) Kenneth Baker staffed the Mobile Museum. Their help is appreciated greatly!

Christmas Giving Tree

St Denis Church of Manasquan has designated again this year a portion of their annual Christmas Giving Tree to veterans. In conjunction with the National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey and the Menlo Park Veteran's Home, parishioners will give gifts to patients in residence at Menlo Park. Gifts will include personal items, games and articles of clothing such as bathrobes, slippers and sweatshirts.

Last year the generosity of St. Denis parishioners provided a truck full of beautifully wrapped Christmas presents. Gifts of every shape and size were distributed to grateful patients. The staff at Menlo Park Veteran's Home was pleased with such a considerate donation from St. Denis Church. Curator, CW4 McCabe works on the project with Sister Josephine Wade, who coordinates the efforts of the parish during the Christmas Giving Tree campaign.

Road to Recovery



ne of the museum's Board of Trustees and one of the first volunteers, Joe Lanzalotto, has been ill for the past two months. The Board of Trustees and all the museum volunteers and staff send best wishes to Joe and his family. He is in our prayers and thoughts everyday while he is on the road to recovery. Joe underwent surgery for a brain tumor in late October.

Joe has been a volunteer at the museum since his retirement from the National Guard in 1985. Joe also is a retired Command Sergeant Major from the United States Marine Corps. His experience and historical knowledge is a boon to the museum and we miss him very, very much. Cards may be sent to:

46 Oxford Avenue
Saddle Brook, NJ 07663-4508

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DUES..DUES..DUES

A reminder that the membership year begins in February and your annual dues are due at that time. Your dues are tax deductible.

In 2001 the annual dues are \$10 per individual, \$250 for life membership and \$1500 for corporate membership.

Please make checks payable to THE NATIONAL GUARD MILITIA MUSEUM OF NEW JERSEY, INC. and send to:

DMAVA
101 Eggert Crossing Road
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

ATTN: Ellen Fruscione

Museum ARTifacts

National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey
National Guard Training Center
PO Box 277
Sea Girt, New Jersey 08750-0277

Inside This Issue:

Volunteer gets high school diploma

Journal from WWII

Annual Meeting
